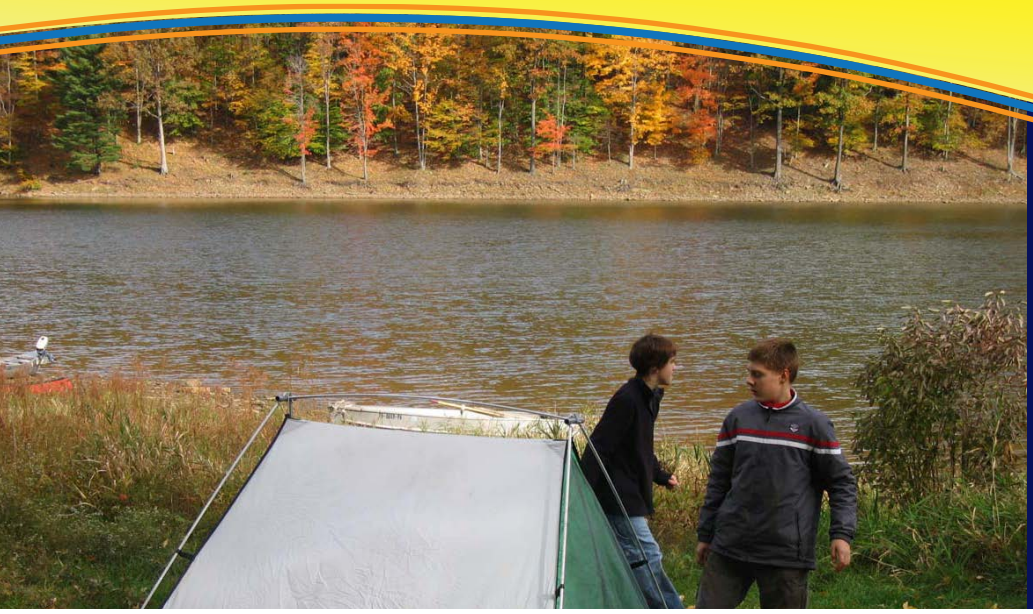
101 ALUMNI QUARTERLY

October 2016
ISSUE 28



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AND MORE!!!

The Times They are a Changing

Jim Potjunas
Scoutmaster

Our council recently took a vote on a 5-council realignment for northeast Ohio. Here in the Greater Western Reserve Council we have been many years without a Boy Scout summer camp. While many things were done well, some key parts of the program were not being delivered. So right now it looks like effective January 1, Arrowhead District (think mostly Trumbull County or old Western Reserve Council) and Whispering Pines (think Mahoning County or old Mahoning Valley Council) will become part of Great Trail Council (Akron).

For us at Troop 101 it means that the summer camp we have attended since 2000 will be our own council's camp. There are benefits cost and reservation-wise to that. Our OA members (presently Wapashui Lodge / Tapawingo Chapter) will become part of Marnoc Lodge. There will eventually be changes as they phase out the local Scout Service Center. Most likely there will end up being a satellite facility down at Stambaugh. That part will likely be less convenient, but the rest of the changes to camp, etc. will be better for us. Like any change, there are pro's and con's. At this time we see more pro's.

For you alumni? Save those Greater Western Reserve shoulder patches and Wapashui Lodge Flaps! For others of you, the Western Reserve shoulder patches and Tapawingo Lodge Flaps will soon be one more generation removed.

I wonder if Scouts is the only place where we measure our history in patches?

-Jim

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Jim Potjunas	Scoutmaster
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Stacey Hoover	Director at Large
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Alumni Committee

Ed Byers	Newsletter
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Paul Kuszmaul	Builder
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Generations: The Wasilewskis, Don and John

In this issue, we catch up with former Troop 101 Assistant Scoutmaster Don Wasilewski and Eagle Scout Son, John (Eagle #23, December, 1986).

Don still lives in the area and frequents a number of Troop events and is a regular at the Troop's annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser.

John relocated to the Richmond, Virginia area where he is employed by Verizon as a Managing Partner-Solution Architects. He and wife Heather have three children, Caleb 16, Brooke 14 and Jacob, six

Their story is one of rich history and Troop tradition from the early days of the Troop.

AQ: Don, you and John go way back with the Troop.

Don: We do. I was first introduced to Troop 101 when I became the Webelos Leader of Pack 16 at St. James Catholic Church in Warren. My wife attended a meeting at the school and volunteered me to take over that Den. My son John was just entering the Cubs at the time. We had an older Scout from 101 who helped out with the Webelos and I had that as my intro to the Troop.

Wasilewski Eagle Award

Gary Mansell was the Scoutmaster at the time and I tried to take my Webelos with 101 on as many camping trips as I could. My Scout helping me was Phil Hockenberry As John progressed in Cubs, it was very obvious that he would cross over into Troop 101. By that time, Jim Potjunas took over as Scoutmaster and wanted me to come into the Troop as an Assistant Scoutmaster. I did so, and the rest is history.

The Troop was as big and as active as the one I was in as a youth and I was anxious to make that transition. Loving the outdoors, camping and all the other activities, it was just the right fit for me and spending time with my son was a bonus.

John: I was impressed with the Troop from the very beginning. It, of course, was a bit scary coming over from a small Pack, which Dad mentioned, but everyone was nice and there was so much to do! I also loved that I was put into a Patrol right away, which helped to make the large Troop seem much smaller. I know today we have all kinds of crazy names for Patrols and what we had then was a bit boring by today's standards, but I am a Bobcat and proud of it!

AQ: How about some memorable Troop experiences?

John: This is tough as there are so many! I will always remember the trip to Toronto and Algonquin! The trip was amazing from the people, to the canoeing, the moose, the city, the beauty of the park, but most of all the Scouts. I know the LaPolla's are still involved in the Troop, but I remember Kenny getting lost a few times, so he had to hold my Dad's hand in Toronto so he would not get lost again. I also remember Ned Gold busting his son Greg's chops the whole trip.

There was this one time we went on a canoe trip. I think it was Cook Forest. We all stopped at a spot and jumped out of our canoes. I was standing just outside my canoe in about only 4 or 5 inches of water and I look up and here comes Greg Rossi. Well, he and his canoe mate pull right up next to me and Greg, with his crazy laugh, jumps out of his canoe and completely disappears. I mean, he is just gone. The next thing I know, he comes up out of the water splashing and gasping for air like a crazy person. He somehow found a huge hole and, even though we were all in just a few inches of water, Greg was floundering around in over a 6ft deep hole. I laughed so hard I thought was going to pass out. Poor Greg. Stuff always seemed to happen to him and/or Greg Gold. What a pair they were.

John and his Parents at his Eagle Court of Honor

Family Vacation, Corolla N.C. June 2014

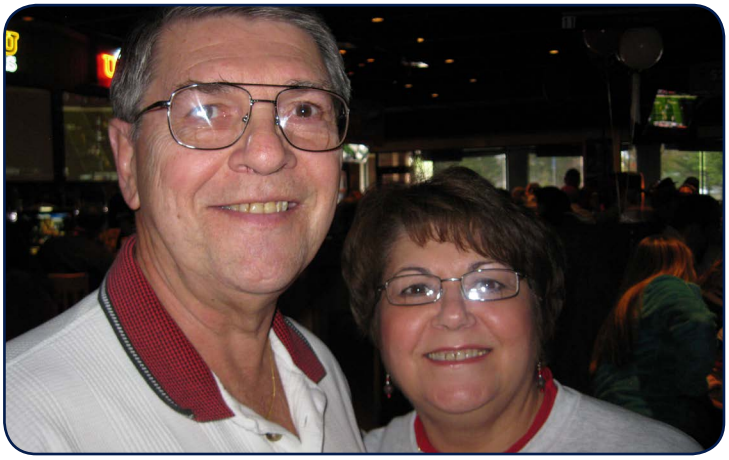
AQ: Don, your thoughts on being an ASM with the Troop?

Don: Some of my favorite moments are hard to pick because there were so many. Doing a First Class Camp with John on a weekend as a demo for all the other Scouts to see, is one of them. We also did a complete utensil-less weekend just to show that it can be done.

Being a part of and seeing John earn his Eagle Rank along with a Palm, has to be my most favorite moment. When I was a Scout, I reached my Eagle only to have the Scoutmaster take off with all our troop's records and equipment before it got turned in, so I never received my Eagle, John getting his sure made up for it.

AQ: John, how do you view some of the changes the Scout movement has endured?

John: Scouting has had it tough over the years, lots of outside pressure and huge changes in parenting and social media. But I think Scouting has endured very well. My oldest son Caleb went all the way through Cub Scouts and a couple years of Boy Scouts before deciding to do a few other things. My youngest is Jacob, age six and we just signed him up to be a Tiger Cub! Scouting is great. I see it as what it's supposed to be - a place where Boys can learn and grow to be better men. I saw that 30 years ago with me, 10 years ago with my oldest and again today with my little one. Scouting endures because of good people. People like my father, Jim Potjunas and everyone reading this newsletter. It's because of all of you, we have Scouting



Don and Linda

AQ: Don, your thoughts on that?

Don: I think that Scouting has changed more than it should have, but having a Troop like 101 has kept the changes in check. Leadership is so important and 101 has that steady hand to keep it from getting out of hand. My grandson Caleb was in a Troop in Virginia and they just can't compare to the style of Scouting that 101 has.

AQ: Don, even though John has moved on to Virginia, you're still here and we are fortunate to see you at a number of Troop functions.

Don: It still is a thrill to be invited back to the Troop for those special occasions and see that it is still as active as when I was involved. I'm sure that's because of the leadership of Jim and the great Assistants that came after me. To see some of the Scouts that made Eagle when I was involved, now to have sons of their own making Eagle, is meaningful.

AQ: Despite the passage of time, your Dad remains incredibly proud of your Eagle Rank.

Family Vacation, Corolla N.C. June 2016. From Left to Right Eric, Avri, Joanna, Dominic, Don, Linda, John, Jacob, Caleb, Heather, Brooke

John and Heather

John: That means a lot to me, for sure. I still have Eagle Rank on my Resume. I hold it right up there with my degree from The Ohio State University. People's reactions are funny. A few laugh and say ohhhh you were a Boy Scout! - But then I correct them and say," No, I am an Eagle Scout." That usually gets them to stop and say, "Really? Oh, that's hard right? It's also a big deal too, yes?"

The majority of people, however, are impressed and want to talk to me about my experience and what I learned, or share memories if they were in Scouting. I love talking to people about it and always share a good story or talk well

OSU Football Weekend, Eric, Joanna, Avri, Don and John

of my time in Scouts and what earning my Eagle meant to me.

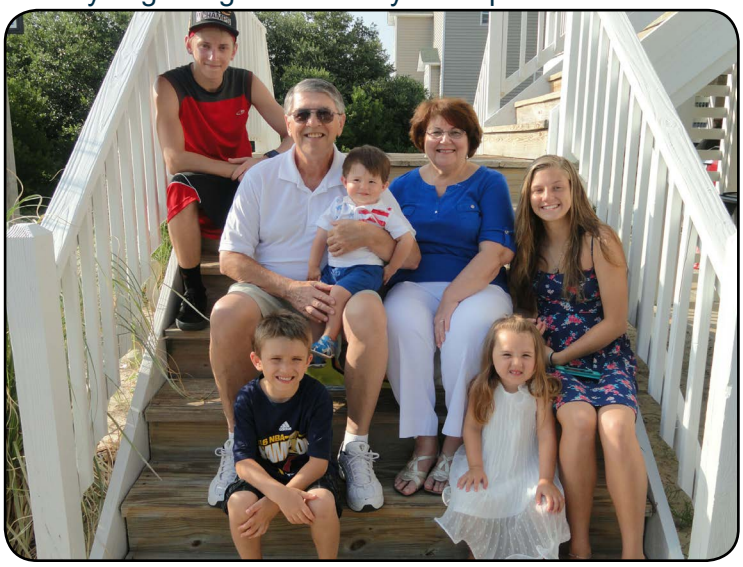
I think I was the first Scout in the Troop to get a Bronze Palm at his Eagle Court. That meant a lot, as well.

Looking back, we had such a great Troop. It was competitive. To be the first at anything was amazing. For how it has impacted me? Oh Boy. Scouting, in general, certainly has. From Cooking, to Citizenship, to daily things like tying a knot. I am not sure that a day goes by where I don't use something I learned from Scouting. Even just shaking someone's hand, making eye contact, holding the door for someone. I can take that all back to Troop 101!

And specifically being an Eagle? Well, that's an accomplishment to be proud of. I am every day. I am always proud to tell someone I made my Eagle. The best is when you meet someone who really knows what it means and see their reaction. The instant respect, especially if they are a fellow Eagle, or a parent of one.

AQ: And the Troop?

John: That's an easy question. I love Troop 101. I did from the very beginning. It will always be a part of who I am and, hopefully in some ways, a part of my children as well. I've passed along to them many Troop 101 stories, songs, and lessons. The Troop lives on in my family.



Don, Linda and the Grandkids

Meatloaf Ala Was

This was a standard among patrols 'back in the day' when we were first using Dutch ovens.

2 lbs ground chuck
2 cups Italian Bread Crumbs
4 eggs
A1 Sauce

Mix all together with A1 sauce for additional moisture and to taste. Form into a loaf and bake in a 12" Dutch oven for an hour. (Editor's note: we are showing this as a doubled recipe for an 8-person patrol.)

Don: Oh, while we're on the subject of things that stand the test of time, I think the troop is still using a meatloaf recipe I came up with back in the day! I think they call it Meatloaf Ala Waz. I know Mike Weaver still uses it, his wife told me that this year! How's that for a Troop 101 tradition?

John, Presented Eagle Scout

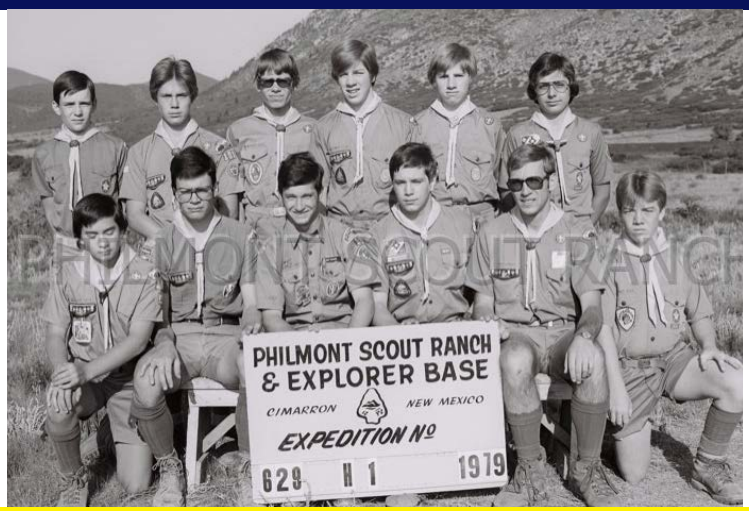
Philmont Photo Archives

Philmont now has a digital archive of all the crew pictures way back to when even Ned Gold was on staff!

Check out the Archive here:
http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/PhotoArchive.aspx

If you find your crew photo and let us know, we will post it in the troop photo gallery. We would love to know the names of everyone you remember from your crew so we can tag them as well. We already have 3 crews posted!

Check them out in the Troop Photo Gallery here:
http://troopphoto.troop101.net/display.aspx?pid=77370



New Equipment Buildign Update

Things are moving along and we are getting more excited each week! Doors and windows are in so the building is secured now. Electric is run as is the wiring for the security system. This all means they can begin the insulating and drywall work.

As of this writing we have a plan to move our equipment over into the part of the building that is finished and keep it covered while the rest of the construction continues. That should help relieve many of our logistical challenges.

We have figured out basically what we need for shelving and storage. We are now assessing what funds we have to go forward with that. You may recall from an earlier article, our present fundraising covered getting the building itself. There are still things to cover inside. We came up with a pretty awesome idea for hanging and drying tents, but we are going to hold off discussing that until it becomes a reality. It may be the coolest part of the whole building.

Speaking of cool, the siding and much work is done on the outside including a very awesome BSA logo. The brick that matches the other buildings on the church property is on site and that should be underway soon. As we are now better able to visualize everything, coupled with our change in tent hanging, it is clear that in addition to committee, ASM, PLC, and even Alumni meetings, we will be able to center many of our troop meetings from this facility when the weather is not too extreme. We see lots of possibilities beyond what we first envisioned.

Of course it can't be done soon enough and we are very excited. We don't have a completion date yet, but when we do, we will schedule a dedication and everyone is invited! Stay tuned!

Troop plans Time Capsule with Building Project

We are planning to establish a time capsule with our new building. This would be opened by the Patrol Leader's Council 20 or 25 years from now. Our questions to you current members and alumni: what should we place in this time capsule for Scouts of a future generation to discover?

Is there something you would donate to be included? We are looking for ideas as much as anything here. When the youth of 2036 or 2041 open it, what will they find?

Feel free to send ideas to Scoutmaster@Troop101.net. We look forward to hearing from you!

Trivia

1. On March 24, 1919 the Warren Rotary Club formed a new Boy Scout Council. What was the Council name?

2. The Council then merged with the Niles Council in 1930 to form what Council?

3. What year did that council become the Western reserve Council?

4. Who was the first Boy Scout to earn the Nobel Peace Prize, in 1950?

Fun Facts

We have been the Greater Western Reserve Council since 1994.

Nearly 1.2 million volunteers donate an average of 20 hours per month to the BSA, which totals 288 million hours of time during one year. Independent Sector projects the average value of volunteer time to be $20.25 an hour. The approximate value of the time given by Boy Scout volunteers is more than $5.8 billion annually.

Answers

1. Warren Local Council
2. Trumbull County Council
3. January 30, 1948
4. Ralph Bunche for having arranged a cease-fire between Israelis and Arabs during the war which followed the creation of the state of Israel in 1948.

The EDitor's Corner

"The Old and the New"

Ed Byers
Editor

This year marks 20 years that I have been associated with Troop 101.

I joined with son Ed, Troop 101 Eagle Scout #83 in when he crossed-over from Pack 122 in 1996, continued with Eagle Son, Jimmy and have continued to enjoy being associated with one of the best youth organizations in the nation.

Moving to the Cleveland/Akron area in 2005, I stayed with the Troop in name only, but continued to visit for Summer Camp at nearby Manatoc.

Over the years, I would attend many of the Good Scout Luncheons in downtown Cleveland and run into fellow Scouters in the Great Trail and Cleveland Councils. Whenever I mention being with Troop 101 in Warren, it was instant and unanimous recognition: "Oh, you're the Troop with the drums and flags at Manatoc!"

Yes, far and wide, our fine tradition and reputation always seems to precede itself.

A milestone occurred in June of this year as I retired, and with wife Jennifer, moved permanently to our summer home in the Allegheny National Forest of northwest Pennsylvania. Maintaining several acres on top of a mountain, it's the perfect place to sharpen those Scouting skills, even for an old goat like me.

In August, I hooked up again with the Troop for its Paddle and Saddle Weekend campout at the Flying W Ranch just a few minutes down the road from my home. (I harkened back some great memories and the days when we used to do this camp out at the late Frank Fortch's summer home just up the river in Tidioute.)

What a treat this visit was.

The Troop had just dismounted from its afternoon trail ride when I caught up with Jim and the Scouts near the bunk house. What struck me most was how the Scouts quietly went right to work on merit badges, wasting no time to hit the books. There was very little chatter or horseplay (no pun intended.)

The Scouts were all business. They were laser-focused.

The structure and discipline of this organization is remarkable. The end-results, as we continue to read in so many of our "Generations" articles, are incredible and long-lasting.

We hope you enjoy reading the Alumni Quarterly and please let us know if you have a story to share.

-Ed

Jim & Ed at Paddle and Saddle 2016

Ed Jr, Ed Sr, and Jim Byers - Point to Point Trip 2005

Ed Fends off the Black Hand - 2000

Angel Tree Service Project

Many of you are familiar with our annual partnership with the Salvation Army where we adopt a few of the families that did not make it onto their Angel Tree. We normally kick it off during the troop Christmas Party with Scouts, parents, relatives, and alumni taking angels, getting gifts, and returning them a week later for the boys to distribute the Saturday before Christmas. This project has been going on since 1999.

This year we are moving the troop Christmas Party over to the church. We need the extra room as we have been outgrowing our previous location and we have an invitation out to Pack 101 to join us for part of the day. Along with that comes a change in date and the party will be a week later than before. This means we need to get the word out differently on Angels since we will need them back right after the party in order to have them ready to deliver.

We will be asking families to stop in at the two troop meetings following Thanksgiving to select angels as well as developing a method to take an angel via the troop website. We will see how this works out. We have had a long standing partnership with the Salvation Army each Christmas and hopefully this new approach will allow us to continue that.

Alumni to the Rescue!

Last issue we featured an article about the Troop's blue neckerchiefs and how it was getting nearly impossible to find folks to do the hemming. It seems fewer and fewer people sew these days.

Shortly after the newsletter came out, we received offers from alumni parents and Scouts. Some phone calls and emails were exchanged and we are well on our way to having new neckerchiefs for this next generation of Scouts. THANK-YOU!

Troop 101 Available for a Limited Time

Looking for some of that 101 gear? The Troop 101 annual gear sale in back! We will be taking orders through October 24th.

Check out our polo shirts, women's bling shirts, fleecewear, windpants and more!

A full color catalog and order sheet can be found on the Troop website under the Eagle's Wings tab. If you have questions or would like to place an order, please call Stacey Hoover directly by phone or email. Whichever is more convenient for you. (330) 369-4304 or stacey.hoover@gmail.com

The rain gear is especially popular.

Support Troop 101 - It's Popcorn Time!

Troop 101 is selling Popcorn, and we are ready to take your order! If you live local, please email scoutmaster@troop101.net, and a scout will contact you with a catalog of gourmet popcorn flavors.

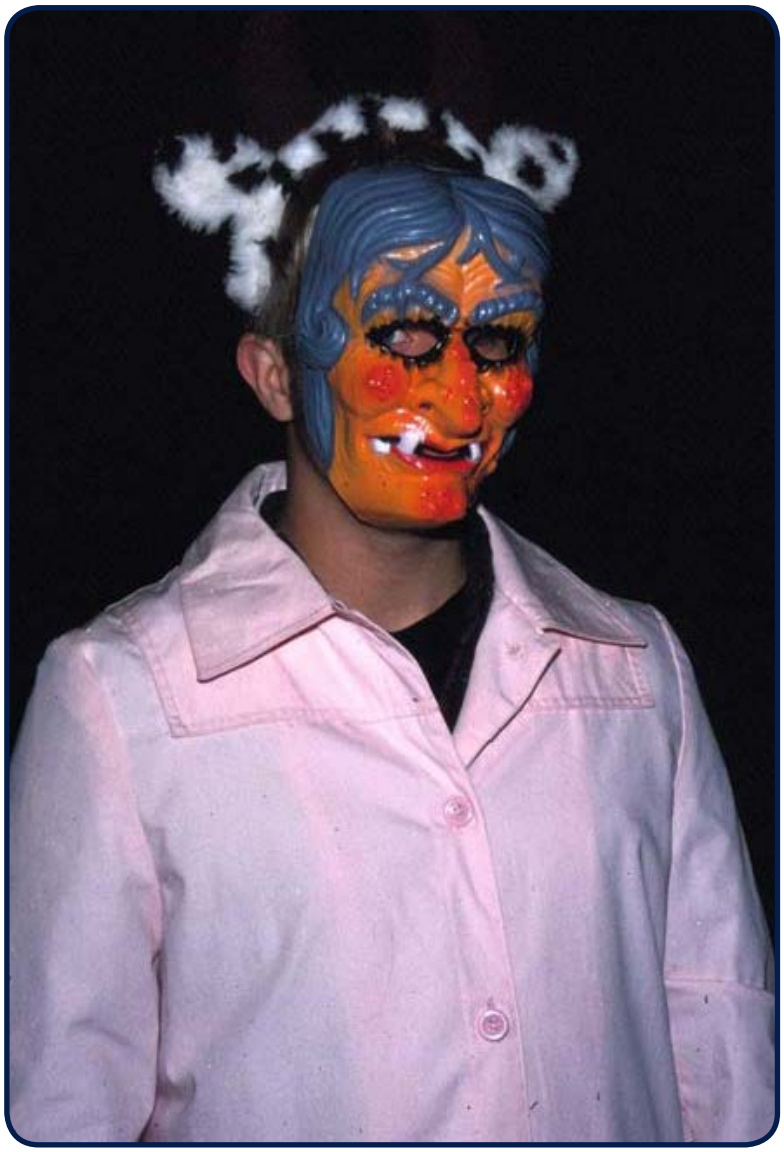
If you live out of town, or would like to customize a 2 gallon or 3 gallon tin, order online at www.prpopcornstore.com. At checkout, enter Seller ID: **65326**. If you would like to credit a specific scout, forward your order confirmation to scoutmaster@troop101.net with the scout's name.

Thank you for supporting Troop 101!

http://Troopphoto.Troop101.net

The Troop 101 gallery now contains over ***77,000*** photos and videos from 1975 to the present.

Paddle & Saddle - August 1998

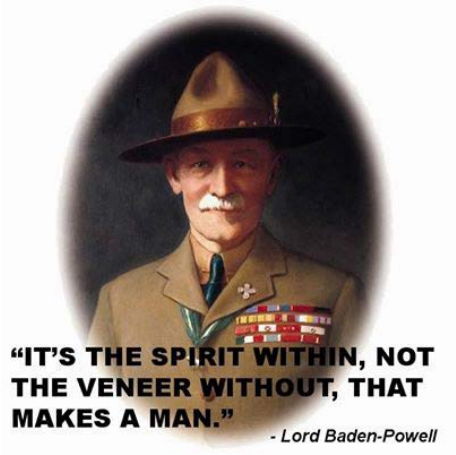


Halloween Party - October 1997

Halloween Party - October 2015

Paddle & Saddle - August 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



- **October**
  - **October 15 - 16** - Kennerdell Backpacking
  - **October 24** - Halloween Party
- **November**
  - **November 11 - 13** - Beaumont
- **December**
  - **December 5** - Salvation Army Angel Project - Gift Selection
  - **December 11** - Troop Christmas Party
  - **December 17** - Salvation Army Angel Project - Gift Delivery
- **January**
  - **January 20 - 22** - Winter Event

FOR MORE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE Troop CALENDAR AT http://Troop101.net/calendar.asp

What the Troop has been up to since our last issue

July 16, 2016

Summer Camp at Manatoc

WOW! The week seemed to fly by.
The Troop spent a fun-filled week at Camp Manatoc in July. The weather also cooperated for most of the week. Our Wednesday court was supposed to have rain, but the sun showed through and provided the perfect weather! You should see all the merit badges they completed!

August 15, 2016

Paddle & Saddle

It was an extended weekend of horseback riding and canoeing. The Troop traveled to the Flying W Ranch in the Allegheny National Forest where they got to enjoy a day of horseback riding, then a day of canoeing along the Allegheny River!

September 11, 2016

Rapelling at Camp McKinley

The Troop had a blast this weekend with Rappelling, Archery, Orienteering and Fire Building.
Friday started foggy, but the skies cleared for an excellent day of activities. The rain held off until after dinner, so everyone stayed dry during the day.
The Troop ended the weekend by remembering the events that took place fifteen years ago.